

ARGIA FUMIPENNIS IN OHIO

MIKE WRIGHT,

Department of Zoology and Entomology,
Ohio State University

The writer was quite surprised on the morning of January 31, 1939—with some snow still on the ground—to have presented to him a live male of *Argia fumipennis* Burmeister. Upon investigation it was discovered that this specimen was obtained from the Botany Greenhouse on the Ohio State University Campus in Columbus, Ohio. Two days later the nymphal exuvium was found clinging to the side of one of the glass aquaria.

Dr. G. W. Blaydes of the Botany Department of O. S. U. very kindly investigated the source from which the plants in these aquaria were obtained and found that they had been purchased from a firm in Tampa, Florida.

The literature shows that this species has been taken as far north as Kentucky (H. Garman, 1924). P. Garman (1917) states, "This species [*Argia fumipennis*] has not been reported from Illinois but has been reported from Kentucky, and may possibly be taken in southern Illinois." Borror (1937) does not list this species from Ohio.

The writer has captured numbers of *Argia fumipennis* in shaded woodland areas near running water at various localities in the Central Gulf Coast Region. This species seems to be rather distinctly a southern form. Its capture in central Ohio, even though bred in a greenhouse, is of interest as it shows one possible way in which the range of such an insect might be extended. If the environmental conditions were favorable, adults of a species which had been artificially transported, in the nymphal stage, to a region beyond its known range might there escape from the sheltered place, in which it had emerged, and oviposit in some suitable aquatic habitat. Then, if there were sufficient vegetation and depth of water present to prevent freezing of the immatures, it is quite probable that the species would become established in that region.

In addition, on March 13, 1939, a male of *Ischnura posita* Hagen and a female of *Ischnura verticalis* Say were taken in a different room in the Botany Greenhouse. Both of these species, however, are common inhabitants of Ohio.

LITERATURE CITED

- Borror, D. J.** 1937. An Annotated List of the Dragonflies of Ohio. Ohio Jour. Sci. 37 (3): 185-196.
Garman, H. 1924. Odonata from Kentucky. Ent. News. 35: 285-288.
Garman, P. 1917. Zygoptera, or Damsel Flies, of Illinois. Bull. Ill. State Lab. Nat. History 12, article 4.
-